



*September 2018 Board Brief*

## **STEEL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Memorial Books**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Kay Navasky**, aunt of Edward Colebank, Director of Academics, Information & Technology; **Dr. Albert M. Sklencar**, brother-in-law of Mary Jo Sklencar, Park paraprofessional; **Robert J. Pavuchak**, father of Amber Thomas, secondary school nurse; **Edward Czajkoski**, retired Social Studies teacher; **Barbara A. Miller**, substitute custodian; **Jacquelynn Sutyak**, aunt of Becky O'Shell, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Park School; **Louise and Charles McKinney**, aunt and uncle of Katherine MacDonald, 5<sup>th</sup> grade middle school teacher; **Kelly L. Lucas**, daughter of Rose Marie Bartko, former School Board member and sister of Jim Bartko, former secretary; **Charles W. Hinkle**, father-in-law of Audrey Hinkle, retired teacher; **Robert P. Rager**, 1969 Munhall graduate and the 2011 Steel Valley Distinguished Alumni. It was moved by **Mr. Olson** and seconded by **Mrs. Yuhas** to place a selection of appropriate books into the school libraries in their memory.

### **Board President's Report**

**Mr. Bulger** reported that Superintendent Wehrer is attending a conference in Arizona on a new platform for readying students after high school. He thanked Mr. Aaron Johnson for working on this project, too. The Future Ready Index takes a look at cumulative work of our students.

The school year is in full swing. Thanks to the teachers and staff for getting the school year running.

Mr. Bulger thanked **Senator Jay Costa** for sponsoring a shredding event in the high school parking lot last weekend.

### **Student Representatives' Reports**

**Miss Isabella Furrick** introduced Junior Student Representative **Channing Griffin**. Channing reported on the happenings in the elementary schools.

Barrett students increased their PSSA scores. On September 14, an assembly with Officer Phil was held at Barrett. **Charlie Batch** brought Batchpacks for all the Barrett students and bags loaded with school supplies for the teachers.

Park School had a great start to the school year. They also had a safety assembly with Officer Phil and a Positive Behavior Support assembly. The first round of student assessments was conducted.

The Park PTO Cash Bash will be held Saturday, October 13.

Senior Student Representative to the School Board **Isabella Furrick** reported that the fall sports, such as, football, volleyball, soccer and marching band are underway.

Seniors were given an opportunity to meet with the three local mayors, **Senator Jay Costa** and **Representative Austin Davis** to discuss community involvement and the importance of voting.

The career collaborative program for juniors and seniors has begun.

On September 25, students were released early from school for teachers and staff members to participate in ALICE training. This safety exercise prepares the staff for an active shooter situation.

The **High School Student Council** hosted the first of three blood drives on September 19. Isabella thanked all the students, staff, community members and one Board member for donating blood. They were able to support the life of 87 hospital patients with the donations collected.

Homecoming Spirit Week is October 1-5. The themes for the week are Meme Monday at the high school and Marvel hero day at the elementary and middle schools. All students are to wear pajamas on Tired Tuesday. Wednesday is class color day, and Thursday is Team Jersey Day. On Friday, wear maroon and gold for Ironmen Pride Day.

The Powder Puff game will be held on Wednesday at Campbell Athletic Field starting at 6:00 p.m. The cost will be \$1.00. The Powder Puff King will be crowned at half-time. This year the Powder Puff King candidates are collecting for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

On Friday, **Mr. McCallister** will escort the members of the Homecoming Court and other student leaders to the elementary schools for pep assemblies. The middle school and high school will have pep assemblies in the afternoon.

The Homecoming Queen and runners-up will be announced at half-time of the Ironmen Football game. The student fan section has declared Homecoming Night to be a pink out in honor of breast cancer awareness month.

### **Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services' Report**

**Mrs. Borges** announced that the district has hired four new special education teachers and has new classes including a Franklin Transition class and an Elementary Behavior Support class. The Board will be approving a special education department head supplemental position tonight.

### **Director of Academics, Information & Technology's Report**

**Mr. Colebank** announced that a survey to parents and guardians will be sent home asking for email addresses, household income, number in the family and if anyone serves in the military. This survey is required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

He announced that the old website would be closing in the near future, and the new website would be the official website.

On Monday, October 8, there will be no school for students. The staff will be practicing a safety exercise.

### **Solicitor's Report**

The Board accepted the bid of **Gary Bodnar** in the amount of \$3,200.00 to do an appraisal on Block and Lot 130-B-69, 360 East Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120 (Target) and to be an expert witness in the real estate tax assessment appeal filed by Dayton Hudson Corporation Docketed at BV-18-000434

### **Meeting Minutes**

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- August 20, 2018 special meeting
- August 20, 2018 worksession
- August 23, 2018 regular meeting

### **Financial Management**

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for 2017-2018 paid in 2018-2019 in the amount of \$10,617.89
- General Fund invoices for September 2018 in the amount of \$258,895.48

- General Fund hand checks for 2017-2018 paid in 2018-2019 in the amount of \$303,956.45
- General Fund hand checks for August in the amount of \$213,636.17
- General Fund Revenue Report for August 2018
- General Fund Expenditure Report for August 2018
- General Fund Balance Sheet for August 2018
- Food Service invoices in the amount of \$24,525.84
- Food Service Revenue Report for August 2018
- Food Service Expenditure Report for August 2018
- Food Service Balance Sheet for August 2018
- Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2018
- High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2018
- Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2018
- Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2018
- External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2018
- Capital Projects Activity for August 2018
- Capital Projects Balance Sheet for August 2018

### Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Scope of Contracted Service for the Recruitment Officer

### Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Overnight field trip of the **History Club** members and chaperones to Charleston, SC, and Charlotte, NC, on May 31 through June 3, 2019
- Creation of a new student activity entitled “Iron Works” for high school students to mentor middle school students with Mrs. Mariann Reilly as a volunteer sponsor for the 2018-2019 school year

### Special Assignments

The Board cast votes as follows:

- Abstained on the vote for a one-year candidate to the PSBA Pupil Transportation Forum Steering Committee
- Voted for Pearson for a two-year term to the PSBA Pupil Transportation Forum Steering Committee

### Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted a \$10,000 grant from **WQED** to be part of the SMART SCHOOLS program at Barrett Elementary School for the 2018-2019 school year
- Accepted a \$500 grant from the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Musicians Care Fund** of the Pittsburgh Foundation to purchase new instruments for the high school
- Contract between **Pennsylvania Educators’ Clearinghouse** and the Steel Valley School District to allow district administrators to review applications for employment of professional and non-certified employees via the Internet at a prorated cost of \$1,458.00 for the 2018-2019 school year
- Disposal of outdated secondary books from district inventory

## Personnel Management

The Board approved the following actions:

- Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence for **Gwen Berchok** retroactive to August 30, 2018, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- Family Medical Leave of Absence for **Christie Barron** effective October 24, 2018, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Anthony Verbanick** from the position of Instructional Resource Math Teacher under the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding dated September 5, 2018, effective September 28, 2018
- Appointed **Jennifer Brennan** to a full-time permanent teaching position with a 2018-2019 assignment of Districtwide Special Education Teacher at the Middle School/Senior High School at a salary of Bachelor's Step 1 (\$45,233) according to Policy No. 328.1 plus benefits as outlined in the current SVEA collective bargaining agreement effective on a mutually agreed upon date, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings, receipt of current clearances and compliance with Act 168
- **Austin Riley, Elizabeth Martini, Kristie Petruzzi and Susan Stump** as day-to-day substitute teachers/nurses for the 2018-2019 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings, receipt of current clearances and compliance with Act 168, which must be completed within 30 days
- Family Medical Leave of Absence for **Mary Jo Sklencar** effective October 24, 2018, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Therese Safko** with all benefits of the current collective bargaining agreement effective February 14, 2019
- Hired **Renee Gelston, Debra Johnson and Sandy Ardale** in food service with all benefits of the current collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings and in compliance with Act 168
- **Elizabeth Martini, Kristie Petruzzi and Susan Stump** as substitute Health Care Aides for the 2018-2019 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings, receipt of current clearances and compliance with Act 168, which must be completed within 30 days
- Hired **John Reiner** as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$9.00 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings and compliance with Act 168, which must be completed within 30 days
- Hired **Susan Agardy, Maureen Hanley and Renee Sabo** as substitute food service workers at a rate of \$8.50 per hour with no benefits and hire Renee Sabo as a substitute paraprofessional at a rate of \$9.00 per hour with no benefits, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings and compliance with Act 168, which must be completed within 30 days
- Created a supplemental position of Special Education Department Head at a stipend of \$2,446.45 prorated for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year
- Rescinded the lists from the July 26, 2018 meeting titled "Fall Athletic Supplemental Positions" and from the August 23, 2018 meeting titled "Fall Coaching Supplementals" and adopted the amended list for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year
- Appointed **Darrell Burroughs** to Middle School Girls Volleyball Coach, **Rick Williams** to Middle School Boys Basketball Coach 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, **Bryan Macuga** to Middle School Boys Basketball Coach 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, **Terri Lynn Brown** to Middle School Cheerleading Coach and **Lisa Lawson** to Special Education Department Head with a prorated stipend for the 2018-2019 school year

### Special Meeting – September 5, 2018

The Board approved the following items:

- Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Valley School District and the Steel Valley Education Association for a retirement incentive dated September 5, 2018
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Valley School District and the Steel Valley Act 93 Group for a retirement incentive dated September 5, 2018
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Valley School District and the Steel Valley Secretarial/Aide Education Support Professionals for a retirement incentive dated September 5, 2018
- Appointed **Jenna Aykul** to a full-time permanent teaching position with a 2018-2019 assignment of special education teacher at the Elementary Behavior Support Center at a salary of Master's Step 1 (\$46,724) according to Policy No. 328.1 plus benefits as outlined in the current SVEA collective bargaining agreement retroactive to September 4, 2018, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings and compliance with Act 168
- Appointed **Emily Doyle** to a full-time, long-term substitute teaching position for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2018-2019 school year with an assignment of health and physical education teacher at the high school at Bachelor's Step 1 (\$45,233) salary according to Policy No. 328.1 plus benefits as outlined in the SVEA collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 20, 2018
- Rescinded the approval from the May 24, 2018, meeting titled Contract Service: Bond Counsel and Investment Banker
- **Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP**, as the Bond Counsel at a rate of \$23,500.00 plus expenses not to exceed \$4,500.00 and **Janney Montgomery Scott** as the Investment Bankers at a discount rate of \$6.50 per \$1,000.00 bond. Bond Counsel and the Investment Bankers will explore the possibility of debt restructuring.